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The "Address to the People" at the Ordination of Rev. John Pierpont, jun., at Lynn, 1843.

Life of Sebastian Rale, Missionary to the Indians (Sparks's Am. Biog., new series), 1845.

The "Address to the People" at the Ordination of Mr. Horatio Stebbins, 1850.

The Charge at the Ordination of Mr. Edwin M. Wheelock, 1857.

In addition to the above, he published many articles in the *Christian Disciple*, the *Christian Examiner*, the *American Monthly Review*, the *Unitarian Advocate*, the *Scriptural Interpreter*; also translations from Herder, several sermons in the *Liberal Preacher*, and several tracts published by the American Unitarian Association.

ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL, 1865.

The annual meeting of the Society was held this day, Thursday, April 20, at eleven o'clock (it having been postponed one week on account of the occurrence of the annual Fast-day on the 13th); the President, the Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, in the chair.

The Librarian announced donations from the American Philosophical Society; Bowdoin College; Columbia College, New York; Dartmouth College; the New England Historic-Genealogical Society; the New-England Loyal Publication Society; the New-Jersey Historical Society; Oberlausitzischen Gesellschaft der Wissenschaften zu Görlitz; the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries, Copenhagen; the Royal Uni-

versity of Norway; the Suffolk Institute of Archæology and Natural History; the Principal of the Collegiate and Commercial Institute, New Haven, Conn.; the Publishers of the Savannah Republican; the Trustees of the Free Public Library, New Bedford; John Appleton, M.D.; Charles J. Biddle, Esq.; Mr. Deloraine P. Corey; C. F. Duncklee, Esq.; Mr. John H. Ellis; Mr. William Everett; William Gray, Esq.; Reuben A. Guild, Esq.; Clement H. Hill, Esq.; Franklin B. Hough, M.D.; Adjutant-General William Irvine; Rev. Samuel Osgood, D.D.; William F. Poole, Esq.; Messrs. G. C. Rand and Avery; Benjamin S. Shaw, M.D.; S. L. Taylor, Esq.; Messrs. Ticknor and Fields; Mr. William Veazie; Hon. William Willis; William Winthrop, Esq. (84 volumes); and from Messrs. Ellis, Green, Lawrence (59 volumes, principally of Town and Local Histories), Quint, C. Robbins, and Winthrop, of the Society.

The Corresponding Secretary read a letter from John Forster, Esq., of London, acknowledging his election as a Corresponding Member.

The President then addressed the meeting as follows:

The annual meeting of our Society, as some of you doubtless may have remembered, should have taken place in regular course on Thursday last, — that having been the second Thursday in the month. But, as that day had been designated by His Excellency the Governor as a day of fasting and prayer, the Standing Committee, under the authority conferred upon them in our By-laws, postponed our meeting until to-day. Had we met a week ago, gentlemen, we should have come here with feelings of unmingled joy and exultation at the recent and glorious successes of the Union armies, and should have exchanged heartfelt congratulations on the cheer-

ing prospect of an early restoration of Union and Peace to our beloved country. Nor can we fail to remember most gratefully to-day, even amid all the clouds and darkness which surround us, that such successes have been achieved, and that such prospects have indeed opened upon us. But an event has since occurred which has turned all our joy into mourning, and we meet under circumstances which almost unfit us for the ordinary routine of business. The awful crime which was perpetrated at Washington on Friday last would have filled all hearts with horror, even had it only involved the life of any of the humblest of our fellow-citizens. But it has taken from us the chosen Chief Magistrate of the nation, — the man who, of all other men, could least be spared to the administration of our Government, — the man who was most trusted, most relied on, most beloved by the loyal people of the Union. Beyond all doubt, the life of President Lincoln was a thousand-fold the most precious life in our whole land; and there are few of us, I think, who would not willingly have rescued it at the risk, or even at the sacrifice, of our own. The cheerful courage, the shrewd sagacity, the earnest zeal, the imperturbable good-nature, the untiring fidelity to duty, the ardent devotion to the Union, the firm reliance upon God, which he has displayed during his whole administration; and the eminent moderation and magnanimity, both towards political opponents and public enemies, which he has manifested since his recent and triumphant re-election, have won for him a measure of regard, of respect, and of affection, such as no other man of our age has ever enjoyed. The appalling and atrocious crime of which he has been the victim will only deepen the impression of his virtues and his excellences, and he will go down to history with the double crown of the foremost Patriot and the foremost Martyr of this great struggle against treason and rebellion.

With the concurrence of the Standing Committee, I submit for your adoption the following resolutions: —

Resolved, By the Massachusetts Historical Society, that we are unwilling to enter upon the business of our annual meeting this day without having placed upon record some formal expression of the profound emotions which have been excited in all our minds and in all our hearts, by the tidings which have reached us during the last few weeks, and more particularly during the last few days ; tidings which at one moment have thrilled us with delight by the glorious assurance that an unnatural and abhorrent rebellion was on the point of being triumphantly suppressed, and which at the next moment have overwhelmed us with grief for the loss of the most valued and most important life in our whole land by a foul and wicked assassination.

Resolved, That the fall of the rebel capital, which had so long defied the strenuous assaults of the Union army, followed as it has been by successive surrenders of the rebel forces, calls for the most grateful acknowledgments of every American patriot ; first, to the Almighty Ruler of the Universe, who in his own good time has vouchsafed us these decisive successes ; and, next, to Lieutenant-General Grant and the officers and soldiers under his command for their persevering and heroic conduct and courage : but that we cannot forget how much we are indebted also for these glorious results to President Lincoln and his Cabinet, who have superintended the military as well as the civil policy of the Government during our great struggle for maintaining the American Union.

Resolved, That in the assassination of President Lincoln we recognize as atrocious and dreadful a crime as ever stained the annals of any age or any land ; that his loss to our country is the heaviest which could have befallen it ; that his integrity, fidelity, and patriotism, his moderation and magnanimity, and his untiring and successful devotion to the cause of Union and Liberty, followed as they have been by a murder so cruel and so wicked, have secured for him a place in American history, and a place in every loyal heart throughout the land, such as has hitherto been held only by the Father of his Country.

Resolved, That our cordial sympathies are hereby tendered to the Hon. William H. Seward in his sufferings from the inhuman and fiendish assault which has been made upon him and his family ; that we pray God that he may live to witness the final re-establishment of the Union for which he has labored so ably and so devotedly ; and that, as a humble tribute of our regard and respect, we unanimously enroll him among the honorary members of our Society.

Resolved, That we recognize the duty and the privilege of all good citizens to uphold the constituted authorities of the land in an hour like this; and that we hereby offer to President Andrew Johnson, who has succeeded to the Chief Magistracy under circumstances so impressive and so trying, the most respectful assurance of our sympathy and confidence, with our best wishes for his personal welfare and the success of his administration.

On the seconding of these resolutions, remarks were made by MESSRS. LIVERMORE, HEDGE, SAVAGE, ELLIS, AMORY, HOPPIN, QUINT, BRIGHAM, SALTONSTALL, R. FROTHINGHAM, and C. BROOKS.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted.

Samuel Eliot was elected a Resident Member.

The President noticed the decease, since the last meeting, of Charles S. Daveis, of Portland, a Corresponding Member of this Society; elected in May, 1855.

The President read a letter from L. L. Doty, dated "Albany, March 17, 1865," stating that Daniel Shays, who headed the rebellion in Massachusetts in 1787, died at Scottsburgh, a little village in Western New York, in the county of Livingston; that he lies buried in the graveyard there, and that there is nothing to indicate his grave to a stranger. "A simple three-cornered piece of slate, say nine or ten inches square, without inscription, overgrown with weeds and grass, is the only thing that marks it at all." The writer hopes that this Society may feel inclined to appropriate means for some simple memorial to be placed over the grave. If so, he would undertake to have the remains re-interred, and a fence erected about the spot.

Voted, That the Society decline to make an appropriation for the object stated. The President was re-

quested to reply to the letter of Mr. Doty, which was addressed to him.

The Chairman of the Standing Committee, the Librarian, and the Treasurer produced their Annual Reports.

Mr. FROTHINGHAM, the Treasurer, stated that the Committee appointed to examine the Treasurer's account (having been obliged to leave the meeting before the time to make their report) had attended to the duty assigned to them, and had certified to the correctness of the accounts.

Voted, To accept the several Reports which had been presented, and refer them to the Committee on the publication of the Proceedings. They here follow:—

Annual Report of the Standing Committee.

The Standing Committee, in compliance with the third article of the By-laws of the Society, ask leave to present their Annual Report.

They would commence by congratulating the Society on its continued prosperity and success in the objects for which it was founded. The meetings have been held without any interruption, and have been attended more numerous, and with an increased interest in their proceedings. This may be considered very encouraging in a time which is of such historical importance, and whose record is to be shown in future years. But there is still room for improvement.

It will be recollected that there was a Special Committee appointed in 1861 to collect and preserve in the library all documents of any kind relating to the Rebellion, now so happily drawing to a close. This was at first responded to favorably; but the interest has not been kept up as the Committee would wish. The history of the war is yet to be written, and it is incumbent upon us to see that our archives

are furnished with the documents which will supply the need of the historian. We would call upon each member individually to send us any volume, pamphlet, or manuscript, bearing on this subject, for future reference. We cannot feel that the members fully recognize the duty laid upon them by membership of the Society, till they fully meet their responsibilities as collectors and treasurers of the historical material that is daily accumulating. The Committee cannot better enforce the subject of donations, than by quoting from the Introductory Address of the founders of the Society: "With such advantages in our hands, we are wholly inexcusable if we neglect to preserve authentic monuments of every memorable occurrence. Not only names, dates, and facts may be thus handed down to posterity, but principles and reasonings, causes and consequences, with the manner of their operations and their various connections, may enter into the mass of historical information."

It is much to be regretted that the Society has no fund that we can appropriate for the purchase of historical works, since, from such a want, opportunities are frequently lost of enriching the library with treasures of lasting value.

The Committee have discharged the duty of examining the library, and report it in its usual excellent condition. Every book was in its place or accounted for. The whole number of volumes in the library, including the Dowse collection of 4,650 volumes, is 16,619. The number of pamphlets will not vary far from 20,000.

The crying need is still for more room, as the shelves are now crowded; and it is difficult to see how the want is to be supplied.

An important and very necessary improvement has been made this year by the construction of a circular iron staircase, by which the rooms of the second and third stories have been connected, and made more accessible. Other improvements might be suggested; but as it is hoped the Society may at

no distant day be provided with accommodations here or elsewhere more commodious and roomy, and, what is of greater consequence, more safe, the Committee refrain at this time from further remarks on the subject. For additional details respecting the library and its wants, the Committee will refer to the report of the Librarian.

Of the Society's publications six full sets have been disposed of during the year; and they are now scarce, as but eight sets remain. We have on hand, of the thirty-seven volumes of the Collections, 4,022 volumes; of the five volumes of Proceedings, 268 volumes; of the two volumes of Catalogues, 219 volumes. Of unbound volumes of the Collections, 551 volumes; and of Proceedings, 1,048 volumes.

There has been published the past year the seventh volume of the fourth series of the Collections, being a continuation of the valuable "Winthrop Papers" furnished from the private collection of the President; also volume fifth of the Proceedings, bringing them down to October, 1864.

At the last meeting of the Society, a plan was proposed and accepted by which we may be able to increase the sales of the publications, and thereby to create a Publication Fund. A circular has been prepared, giving the details, and also a comprehensive list of contents, both for the whole thirty-seven volumes of the Collections, and for the five volumes of Proceedings. This is made available to persons not members, by the payment of forty dollars, which entitles them to all the publications of the Society thereafter published, during life. While this will give us the opportunity of distributing our publications, and thus increase the amount of historical information, it will be to us also a source of income. The volume of Proceedings, published annually by the Society, is not, as is supposed by some, a mere record of the proceedings of the monthly meetings of the Society; but it contains a great amount of historical information from the papers belonging to the Society, and those read at the meet-

ings, and also notices and memoirs of deceased members, with portraits and engravings.

The Report of the Treasurer will be laid before you, and will exhibit the financial condition of the Society in its details, in the clear and business-like manner which always marks the Reports of that officer.

At the annual meeting in April last, our roll bore the names of ninety-eight Resident Members, and of one hundred and nine Honorary and Corresponding Members. During the year, there have been added four Resident and two Corresponding and Honorary Members. Three Resident Members have died. In June last, our list consisted of just one hundred members, our full constitutional limit. That number was soon broken by the decease of our venerable senior member, Mr. Quincy; and the names of Quincy, Lamson, and Everett, will long mark the year as one to be remembered for the loss of valued and eminent members.

This department of the cabinet remains in much the same state as it was left by the last Report, and not much improvement can be expected until more ample room and accommodation are provided for its arrangement and display. The Cabinet-keeper, Dr. Green, after being at home a few months, has again returned to his post in the army.

At the last annual meeting, it was proposed that an arrangement should be made "for the preparation of an historical paper, to be communicated at each stated meeting by one of the members of the Society." This was referred to a Select Committee, who prepared and addressed a circular to each member. This action, however, has not had the desired effect. Papers have been prepared by Messrs. R. B. Forbes, A. A. Lawrence, J. L. Sibley, and Dr. Webb, and also other shorter notices of historic interest. Memoirs of Dr. Bell, Rev. Charles Mason, and the Hon. William Sturgis, have also been published. It is hoped that in the future a systematic plan of prepared papers will receive the more particular attention of the members.

At the request of several members, the Committee recently procured a book for the collection and preservation of the photographs of the members, commencing in June last, when our roll consisted of one hundred members. A circular was addressed to each member, requesting the contribution of his own photograph. To this request members have to some extent responded, but not so generally as was desired. It is hoped each member will contribute to the collection, so that not one vacant place will remain. The value of such a collection can hardly be overestimated when preserved in the Society's cabinet.

The Committee cannot close their Report without noticing the rapid changes and events in the history of our country; and as they have already spoken of the special duties of the Society at a time of such historical importance, so they cannot forget to render words both of congratulation and of sorrow, so especially appropriate to us at this time. For surely none can better appreciate or enjoy the triumphs of free government than those accustomed to trace the issues and periods of our New-England history, and from none can there come a fuller expression of the nation's grief than from those who have witnessed and enjoyed its recent triumphs. The record of the year, indeed, closes with a terrible tragedy, and we mourn for him who was at the head of our Government; but, in the work he has left behind him, we trust almost completed, of restoring the country to more than its original position, we mark the year as one that will be remembered in all future time, and stand as an epoch in history.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. G. BROOKS, *Chairman.*

Annual Report of the Librarian.

The Report of the Standing Committee exhibits so fully the present state of the library, that little remains for additional comment. Depending chiefly on voluntary contributions, our

collection has already become one of great variety and extent, embracing valuable works in almost every department of historical literature. We should be ungrateful to our numerous contributors from the earliest period of our foundation, did we not take much pleasure and pride in the treasures we possess. Presentation copies from distinguished authors, works inestimable not for cost or rarity alone but intrinsic worth, selected by scholarship knowing how to appreciate, and generosity knowing where to bestow, have for three-quarters of a century been filling our shelves. It must be a source of especial satisfaction to the honored members of this Society, that, among the more conspicuous monuments of usefulness that crowd their paths, they have placed here so many substantial claims to be remembered by their successors in all times to come.

In reviewing the growth of the library the past year, our donations are found to have been numerous and valuable. The largest was that of our Corresponding Member, Mr. Winthrop, of Malta; comprising, among other acceptable gifts, two hundred and twenty-seven volumes of Italian dramas in manuscript. Including these, our accessions from April 1, 1864, to April 1, 1865, were as follows:—

- 410 Bound volumes, making our whole number 15,907.
- 970 Pamphlets, making our whole number about 19,470.
- 190 Broad­sides.
- 227 Bound volumes of Manuscript; now in all 746.
- 59 Other Manuscripts.
- 195 Unbound Newspapers.
- 6 Maps; now in all 339.
- 1 Atlas; now in all 32.
- 1 Photographic copy of Manuscript.

2,059 Separate Articles.

The whole number of volumes added the last year by donation, exchange and purchase, with the 15,881 volumes in the

library at the last annual meeting, after deducting thirteen volumes exchanged, makes the whole number on the first day of April, 1865, 16,619.

On our table to-day, not included in the above enumeration, are fifty-nine volumes presented by our associate, Mr. Amos A. Lawrence, for the most part of an historical character, and among them several town histories. One principal object in contemplation by the founders of the Society was the preservation of interesting facts connected with the early settlement and growth of towns in the Commonwealth, and in its collections are found accounts of many of them contributed by its original members. A laudable zeal to save from oblivion local and family particulars, for the instruction of their future inhabitants and generations, has led, in recent years, to the preparation of many separate works. These are sufficiently numerous for a time in the localities to which they relate, but soon disappear. It is hoped that this effort to rescue for our shelves what might otherwise perish will not be without imitation. With these our whole number of bound volumes is 16,678.

Numerically considered in comparison with other large libraries in Boston and its vicinity,—the University, with its one hundred and eighty thousand; Athenæum, eighty-five thousand; City, one hundred and twenty thousand; American Academy, ten thousand; State, twenty-five thousand; Boston, twenty-five thousand; Law, eighty-five hundred; Genealogical, six thousand; Theological, ten thousand; Medical, ten thousand; Natural History, eleven thousand; amounting, in the aggregate, nearly to half a million of volumes, none too many for our educated community,—our own is not large. But the value of libraries is not to be measured by the number of books. Our various collections are so happily ordered and distributed as to accommodate different classes of readers; and those for the use of the professions, for scientific inquiry, or which are devoted to other specialties:

if limited in range, are generally reasonably complete within their respective departments. Of historical, biographical, and geographical works we possess many that are choice, and not to be easily replaced. Our deficiency is in modern publications, that money will purchase.

We receive with gratitude whatever is presented; but our aim should be to perfect our collection in American History and its ancillary branches of biography, civil polity, and statistics. Productions of an ephemeral nature are constantly issuing from the press, which, unless secured when published, go out of print and out of mind. Pamphlets, maps, public documents, narratives, books of controversy, often improve in value with age. It is doubtful whether files of newspapers in sufficient numbers are preserved by this generation to supply the constantly augmenting wants of those to come. With other similar institutions throughout the land, we share a sacred responsibility, imposed by public expectation, to provide for the future all the historical material it may need.

Early in the war, the attention of the Society was called to the propriety of collecting whatever in print or in manuscript would serve to illustrate this our second great historical epoch; and a Committee was appointed, charged with this duty. If, from the scanty means at their disposal, less has been effected than was hoped, their efforts have not been without result.

The war we believe virtually ended; but, for years, relations of its stirring incidents will flood the press, and help to form just views of its principal characters and events. Whatever is of a public nature, much that is not, will find its way into print; but a thorough understanding of all its secret springs and motives can be obtained only from private correspondence. Much of this in time is set free from any obligations to confidence, divested of all power to pain or to harm. Would it not be well to signify to the public, that every thing of interest connected with the Rebellion, letters and other

manuscripts, whether presented to the Society, or intrusted for safe-keeping, will be carefully preserved, and only permitted to be used with the utmost discretion?

If works relating to our own country should be our first object, whatever concerns the history of the race falls appropriately within the scope of an association like this. Several of its members have won world-wide celebrity by researches into the past of other nations. Some portion of their material was of course only to be procured from original and unpublished documents in the unexplored recesses of public archives abroad; but cost and toil would often have been spared, had our libraries been more complete. Our shelves are now all occupied, and little room remains in this building for farther acquisitions. But the rapid development of trade and population, before many years, will compel our removal where there shall be ampler space; and, meanwhile, should books accumulate, our upper apartments can be re-arranged for their accommodation.

Want of space is not our only discouragement. We need a permanent, increasing, adequate fund, for the purchase of books. To keep pace with the times, we should procure all modern publications of merit of an historical nature, when they are to be had: losing no opportunity of enriching our collection with the ancient historians, chronicles and memoirs of mediæval Europe; issues of the printing societies, annals of jurisprudence, literature, religion, science, and art; statistics, social statics, geography, and ethnology; and all the various records of political and municipal action. The generosity of this community is proverbial, and its bounty meted in no stinted stream to every worthy object. This claim should not be regarded with indifference. The actuating motive to contribute to such a fund would be to promote the preparation of wholesome literature, to take the place of trash that dilutes and distorts youthful minds, whose vigorous appetites would do justice to more useful and substantial nutri-

ment, if rendered more attractive. But, as an additional inducement to the generously disposed, we might well imitate the example of the Alma Mater of so many of us, and perpetuate the memory of benefactors who fill our shelves. The inscription of their names when contributing more than one thousand dollars to the fund, engraved in golden letters on a marble tablet, to be permanently and prominently placed upon our walls, would afford to the numerous generations of their descendants a great pleasure at little cost.

An index to our manuscripts, many of which are enumerated in the preface to the second volume of the General Catalogue published in 1860, is in course of preparation. As these collections are peculiarly rich in local and national history, this index should be printed when completed. If other institutions, states, and individuals would follow our example, as regards their own treasures, there might exist somewhere in each large city, if not in every library, a clue to all the manuscript collections of the land. These collections are constantly increasing in magnitude, and with the advance of time will enhance in value. A method embracing them all, and perfected at stated periods, but not so minute as inordinately to swell the expense beyond the reach of scholars, would render available stores of historical lore now valueless from dispersion and inaccessibility.

Title-cards of our recent accessions have accumulated in sufficient numbers to fill another volume of the General Catalogue. Whether we should keep them out of print until a new edition is called for, or issue a supplement, is a question of economy. Were our means unlimited, the latter course, with revisions at regular intervals of ten or twenty years, would, in all probability, prove, in a long course of time, the most convenient.

THOMAS C. AMORY, Jun.,
Librarian.

Annual Report of the Treasurer.

GENERAL ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING APRIL, 1865.

DEBITS.

Balance due Treasurer, April, 1864	\$474.80
John Appleton	999.97
George Arnold	699.96
Insurance	187.50
Boston Taxes	266.00
Sundries	711.42
Massachusetts Historical Trust-Fund	120.00
Appleton Fund	732.18
Printing	940.21
Improvements in Room	287.50
	<u>\$5,419.04</u>

CREDITS.

Rent of Suffolk Savings Institution	\$2,200.00
Assessments	461.00
Admission Fees	90.00
Sales of Society's Publications	626.77
Tax of Suffolk Savings Bank	266.00
Interest on \$1000 Bond	136.50
Sundries	6.34
Balance due the Treasurer	1,632.43
	<u>\$5,419.04</u>

THE APPLETON FUND.

This fund consisted of ten thousand dollars, presented to the Society, Nov. 18, 1854, by the executors of the will of the late Samuel Appleton, on the condition that its income be applied to the purchase, preservation, and publication of historical material. It was received from the executors in ten shares of manufacturing stocks. These stocks were sold in February and March, 1864; and the net proceeds, amounting to twelve thousand two hundred and three dollars, were invested in the real estate of the Society, according to the Declaration of Trust on file, and recorded in the Register of Deed's office, book 827, p. 63. Volumes three, four, five, six, and seven of the Fourth Series of the Society's Collections

were printed from the income of this fund, and a portion of the Society's Proceedings; and the strictly historical portion of the volume of the Proceedings, printed for 1862-63.

Account ending April, 1865.

DEBITS.

John Wilson and Son, printing vol. vii. of Collections . . .	\$1,461.26
John Appleton, services	200.00
William B. Trask, copying	45.53
J. F. Barrett, copying	29.00
Balance in the Treasurer's hands	342.46
	<u>\$2,079.25</u>

CREDITS.

Balance of Account of 1864	\$1,347.07
One Year's Interest on the Investment in Society's Building	732.18
	<u>\$2,079.25</u>

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL TRUST-FUND.

This fund consists of two thousand dollars, presented to the Society, Oct. 15, 1855, by Hon. David Sears; the annual income of which may be expended in certain specified objects, as the Society may by special vote direct. It is invested in the real estate of the Society.

Account to April, 1865.

DEBITS.

Balance in the Treasurer's hands	\$630.57
	<u>\$630.57</u>

CREDITS.

Balance of Account of 1864	\$510.57
Income to March 1, 1865	120.00
	<u>\$630.57</u>

THE DOWSE FUND.

This fund, of ten thousand dollars, was presented to the Society, April, 1857, by the executors of the will of the late Thomas Dowse; and it was invested in a note signed by Edward Hyde and O. W. Watris, secured by mortgage on

real estate. This note was paid on the 7th of April, 1863; and the whole fund was then invested in the real estate of the Society. The income of this fund is included in the rent received from the Suffolk Institution; and the expenditure is included in salaries paid to Messrs. Appleton and Arnold, who are employed in the care of the Dowse Library.

PROPERTY OF THE SOCIETY.

The Estate on Tremont Street.—The Society purchased, March 6, 1833, of the Provident Savings Institution, the second story, and one-half of the attic story, of this building, for \$6,500; and, on the 13th of March, 1856, the remainder of the interest of this institution, for \$35,000. A portion of this was paid by subscription; and, for the remainder, the Society mortgaged the whole estate to the Suffolk Savings Bank for Seamen and Others, for \$27,500. This mortgage was discharged on the 7th of April, 1863. The payments of the note have been as follows: Two thousand dollars from the legacy of Miss Mary P. Townsend; sixteen hundred dollars from the legacy of the late Nathaniel I. Bowditch; five hundred dollars from the Historical Trust-Fund; twelve thousand two hundred and three dollars from the net proceeds of the sale of stocks of the Appleton Fund; ten thousand dollars from the note of Hyde and Watris, constituting the Dowse Fund; and the balance, eleven hundred and ninety-seven dollars, from a donation by the late Hon. William Sturgis, to enable the Society to discharge the mortgage. The lower floor is rented to the Suffolk Savings Institution for fifteen years from March 1, 1856, at an annual rent of \$2,200.

The Library, Paintings, and Cabinet.—The library consists of about nine thousand bound volumes and fifteen thousand pamphlets.

The Society's Publications.—These consist of the thirty-seven volumes of the Collections, five volumes of Proceed-

ings, and two volumes of the Catalogue,—nearly eight thousand volumes, which are for sale.

The Appleton Fund, of ten thousand dollars; *The Massachusetts Historical Trust-Fund*, of two thousand dollars; *The Dowse Fund*, of ten thousand dollars,—all invested in the real estate of the Society, as explained in this Report.

The Dowse Library.—This library was presented to the Society by the late Thomas Dowse, and consists of about five thousand volumes.

The Copyright of the "Life of John Quincy Adams."—This was presented to the Society by Hon. Josiah Quincy. A new edition is on sale by Nichols and Noyes.

Stock.—A certificate of one thousand dollars in the 5-20 United-States Loan.

THE INCOME.

The income of the Society consists of an annual assessment, on each resident member, of seven dollars, or, instead, the payment of sixty dollars; the admission-fee, of ten dollars, of new members; the rent of the lower floor of the Society's building; the sales of the publications of the Society, the sales of the "Life of John Quincy Adams," and the interest on one thousand dollars of United-States Stock.

As I have heretofore suggested, I know of no way by which the efficiency of the Society would be so much increased, as by the creation of a fund for the purchase of books. As the interest in historical inquiry increases, the need of such an addition to the library is more urgent, especially as to works on American History.

RICHARD FROTHINGHAM,
Treasurer.

Boston, April 18, 1865.

The Committee of Nomination reported the following list of officers for the ensuing year:—

President.

HON. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, LL.D. BOSTON.

Vice-Presidents.

JARED SPARKS, LL.D. CAMBRIDGE.

COLONEL THOMAS ASPINWALL, A.M. BOSTON.

Recording Secretary.

CHARLES DEANE, A.M. CAMBRIDGE.

Corresponding Secretary.

REV. CHANDLER ROBBINS, D.D. BOSTON.

Treasurer.

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The gentlemen nominated were unanimously elected.

Mr. C. BROOKS read the following paper, embracing some anecdotes of the late Mr. Everett:—

Anecdotes of Mr. Everett.

MR. PRESIDENT,—There are two facts connected with the history of the late Hon. Edward Everett which are very interesting; and, as I have not heard any allusion to them, I will state them to the Society.

One I found in a newspaper sent to me, since his death, from San Francisco, Cal. The writer, unknown to me, seems well acquainted with Mr. Everett's character and history. The fact to which I allude is stated thus: "While minister at the Court of St. James, a dispute between the scholars of the two Universities of England, Cambridge and Oxford, as to the correct rendering of a Greek idiomatic sentence, was referred by mutual consent to Mr. Everett for settlement. He undertook the delicate task, and succeeded in convincing both parties to the contest that they were each in error

and gave the true meaning ; and the London "Times" pronounced it honor enough for one man to be able to teach the two great Universities of Great Britain how to construe Greek dialects."

The other fact is well known to me, and it is this: After Mr. Everett had lost his election as Governor of Massachusetts, in 1840, he went with his family to Europe. On his arrival in Paris, he called the next morning at my house, and told me he was on his way to Italy. I told him I hoped he would remain long enough in Paris to allow me to introduce him to M. Victor Cousin, then Minister of Public Instruction. He said he should be happy to do so, as he had known M. Cousin as a student in Germany. M. Cousin appointed the earliest opportunity for meeting us ; and, while walking to the palace, I thought it a time peculiarly opportune to say this: "Mr. Everett, I have for many years wished to ask you to perform a work which greatly needs to be done, and which you can do better than any other man: I mean, — to write a *History of Greece*. Its histories have been ex-parte productions, without the true aroma of native republicanism. The history of Greece should be written by an American ; and the unanimous vote of the United States would select you as the writer, believing you would produce one worthy the theme, and place it by the side of Gibbon's 'History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire.'" He replied: "Bating the compliments, I must tell you I have hoped I might try my hand on the great theme." I then grouped hurriedly the reasons for his undertaking it, — his long training in Greek literature, his age, health, pecuniary means, and his leisure then to take up his residence for a couple of years in Athens, &c. He replied: "As they seem to have done with me in politics, I feel quite inclined to think of Greece ; and, as I am now going to Italy, I may examine the question at leisure."

The Hon. Henry Wheaton, our Minister Plenipotentiary at Berlin, had special reasons for frequent visits to Paris. He was there at this time ; and I asked him to second my efforts in persuading Mr. Everett to undertake the writing of a *History of Greece*. He did so, and told me that he got so far as almost to extort a promise that he would begin it.

Mr. Everett went to Italy, and took up his residence in Tuscany, in one of the historical palaces of the Medici family. In a few months after, he called at my house in Paris to tell me he was on his way to the Court of St. James !

I shall never cease to regret that the Court of St. James found him, and Greece lost him.

E R R A T A.

- Page 31, line 10, for "doctrine" read "doctorate."
 " 89, " 19, for "MDCCCLXXXV" read "MDCCLXXXV."
 " 139, " 5, for "Pfrote." read "Pforte."
 " 202, " 24, for "yⁿ" read "y^u."
 " 253, " 3, for "Oberlausitzischen" read "Oberlausitzische."
 " 254, " 7, for "C. F. Duncklee" read "C. T. Duncklee."

ERRATA IN THE "ANDREWS LETTERS."

At the time the "Andrews Letters," printed in this volume, were passing through the press, the principal part of the original manuscripts from which the transcript for the printer was made, and which had been retained by the editor of the letters, in New York, for comparison with the proof-sheets, were unfortunately lost or mislaid; so that the main reliance in reading the proofs was upon the "copy." Since the printing of the letters, the missing originals have been recovered, and are now in the Library of the Society. They have been carefully compared with the printed sheets, and the following "errata" are all that have been detected which in any way affect the sense. A few of the errors probably resulted from a misreading of the copy.

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| <p>Page 322, line 12, for "own" read "old."
 " 323, " 27, for "off" read "of."
 " 324, " 27, for "Mr. Williams" read
 "Doctt Williams."
 " 325, " 3, for "take" read "send."
 " 328, " 24, for "for" read "or."
 " 329, " 31, for "in" read "i. e."
 " 330, " 4, for "transport" read "trans-
 ports."
 " " 14, for "masters" read "coast-
 ers."
 " " 19, for "Charles river" read
 "Charles town."
 " 331, " 9, insert "as" after "are."
 " 332, " 21, for "two" read "four."
 " " 29, for "Girdley" read "Grid-
 ley."
 " 333, " 1, for "Slyde" read "Llyde."
 " " 17, for "military" read "high-
 way."
 " 334, " 30, for "wounds" read "wound."
 " 336, " 3, for "carriers" read "car-
 men."</p> | <p>Page 339, line 5, for "Starlin" read "Star-
 tin."
 " 340, " 14, for "guns" read "gun."
 " 343, " 7, fill the blank with "Bosengr."
 " 344, " 19, insert "up money" after
 "take."
 " " 34, for "carriers" read "car-
 men."
 " 345, " 16, for "on" read "in."
 " " 19, for "press'd" read "pre-
 fer'd."
 " " 34, insert "appliⁿ of" after
 "without."
 " " 39, insert "after" between
 "day" and "he."
 " 346, " 34, insert a parenthesis after
 "line."
 " 348, " 14, for "Mr. Molineaux" read
 "Wm Molineaux."
 " 349, " 7, for "have" read "bare"
 ["bear."
 " " 16, for "member" read "num-
 ber."</p> |
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